

LOUISIANA TEACHER & PRINCIPAL of the Year

The Louisiana Department of Education in partnership with [Dream Teachers](#) and the [Louisiana Association of Principals](#), recognizes and celebrates some of the state’s most exceptional educators through the Teacher and Principal of the Year programs. These programs provide an opportunity to acknowledge those teachers and leaders who are making exceptional gains with students. Their commitment to student success exemplifies Louisiana’s teaching profession.

SELECTION PROCESS & TIMELINE

PHASE	TIMELINE	DESCRIPTION
Nominations Portal Open	August 22 - September 22, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The nominations portal is open from August 22 - September 22. Upon portal close, the nomination information is shared with school systems.
Application Release	October 11, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department releases Teacher and Principal of the Year application materials for the 2023-2024 school year. Visit the Resources Library and Award’s page.
Informational Overview Calls for Candidates and Stakeholders	October 2023 - January 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To assist candidates, coordinators and stakeholders with the application process, informational calls and help desk calls will be conducted. On these calls, information will be shared about the applications/timeline/process, as well as steps for using the online portals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> See the Informational and Help Desk Zoom Calls document for details.
State-level Applications Due	January 11, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School systems may select up to three teachers and three principals (one for elementary, middle and high) to move to the state competition. By January 11, state candidates are to submit their application in the Teacher and Principal of the Year candidate’s online application portal.
Semifinalists Announced	March 19, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department names the 48 Teacher and Principal of the Year semifinalists (24 teachers and 24 principals.)
Finalists Announced	May 28, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department names the 18 Teacher and Principal of the Year finalists (9 teachers and 9 principals) LIVE at the opening session at the Teacher Leader Summit in New Orleans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher Leader Summit dates- May 28-30, 2024 All 48 Teacher and Principal of the Year semifinalists granted VIP attendance.
Finalist Interviews	Summer 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State selection committees (composed of community and education leaders) conduct virtual interviews with the 18 finalists.
Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala	July 27, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2025 Teacher and Principal of the Year semifinalists and finalists will be recognized and celebrated at the <i>18th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala</i> that will be held in New Orleans.. On this evening the division-level and overall honorees will be named. This exciting event is co-sponsored by Dream Teachers.

Questions- excellenteducators@la.gov